

December 10, 2010

Re: GN 09-191

Dear Commission Members:

Equal access to the internet is crucial for sustaining democracy. Without free, open and truly neutral access to all websites those with money will be able to influence the democratic process much more effectively than those without money.

It really is just that simple.

It cannot be overemphasized how important the internet has become to carrying out democracy in the United States. It has become the new town square. If some groups are given a privileged position or speedier access than other groups the very nature of democracy will be compromised.

The items in this proposal offensive to democracy (allowing the blocking of content, paid prioritization of access, exempting wireless and broadband from current requirements and an excessively narrow definition of broadband) will privilege the well-off in the democratic process at the expense of the less wealthy.

Please remember your role as a representative of the people. We the people (including you, Larry Page, and me, to name just a few) own the airwaves and are ultimately responsible for all rules adopted. Please keep all the people on equal footing and do not give the wealthy a position any more privileged than they already have.

Please reject the items in this proposal noted above.

Thank you for considering this comment.